

Amendments to the Claims

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A method of brewing malt beverages comprising:

preparing a hot wort, the hot wort having a temperature of at least ~~about 145°F~~
170°F;

adding wood chips to the hot wort;

cooling the hot wort; and

fermenting the cooled wort to produce a fermented malt beverage.

Claim 2 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the wood chips are added to the hot wort in a brew kettle.

Claim 3 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the wood chips are removed from the wort before the fermentation step.

Claim 4 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the wood chips are removed after the fermentation step.

Claim 5 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the wood chips are oak.

Claim 6 (Original): The method of claim 5, wherein the oak is American oak.

Claim 7 (Original): The method of claim 5, wherein the oak is French oak.

Claim 8 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the wood chips are toasted.

Claim 9 (Original): The method of claim 5, wherein the oak chips are toasted.

Claims 10-30. (Cancelled)

Claim 31 (New) A method of brewing malt beverages comprising:

preparing a hot wort;

adding wood chips to the hot wort in a brew kettle;

cooling the hot wort;

removing the wood chips from the wort along with trub; and

fermenting the cooled wort to produce a fermented malt beverage.

Claim 32 (New): The method of claim 31, wherein the wood chips are oak.

Claim 33 (New): The method of claim 32, wherein the oak is American oak.

Claim 34 (New): The method of claim 32, wherein the oak is French oak.

Claim 35 (New): The method of claim 31, wherein the wood chips are
toasted.

Claim 36 (New): The method of claim 32, wherein the oak chips are toasted.

Claim 37 (New) A method of brewing malt beverages comprising:

preparing a hot wort;

adding wood chips to the hot wort in a brew kettle;

cooling the hot wort;

fermenting the cooled wort to produce a fermented malt beverage

wherein the wood chips are removed after the fermentation step.

Claim 38 (New): The method of claim 37, wherein the wood chips are oak.

Claim 39 (New): The method of claim 38, wherein the oak is American oak.

Claim 40 (New): The method of claim 38, wherein the oak is French oak.

Claim 41 (New): The method of claim 37, wherein the wood chips are
toasted.

Claim 42 (New) The method of claim 38, wherein the oak chips are toasted.